

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S:LPBREMER:BL
APPROVED BY S - MR. BREMER
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S/S-O:ASHANKLE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 158912

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, US

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR AMBASSADOR EILTS

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

1. THE DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT TO SEND SAUNDERS TO CAIRO DEPENDS ON WHAT INFORMATION WE GET FROM THE ISRAELIS IN THE NEXT 48 HOURS, AND WHETHER I WILL NEED A QUICK ANSWER FROM THE EGYPTIANS PRIOR TO A POSSIBLE MEETING WITH RABIN LATER IN THE WEEK. I SHOULD KNOW BY MONDAY NIGHT OUR TIME WHETHER OR NOT TO SEND SAUNDERS. IF SO, HE WOULD ARRIVE IN CAIRO BY WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON. I WOULD THEN WANT TO SEE HIM IN GENEVA OR BONN BY FRIDAY EVENING. IF THIS IS NOT THE CASE, I WOULD LIKE YOU TO MEET ME IN PARIS THURSDAY MORNING. FOR NOW YOU SHOULD HOLD YOURSELF AVAILABLE FOR EITHER OPTION AND WE WILL LET YOU KNOW AS SOON AS WE HAVE A DECISION.

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2. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN BOTH OF THESE OPTIONS TO FAHMY AND

THE REASONS FOR THEM. I THINK IT WOULD THEN BE USEFUL TO REVIEW WITH HIM MY PRESENT THINKING ABOUT THE MEETING WITH GROMYKO ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES, ELICITING HIS VIEWS AS YOU DO SO:

A. ON STATUS OF CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, MY INCLINATION IS TO TELL GROMYKO NOTHING THAT IS NOT IN THE PRESS. I WOULD SAY THAT BASIC ISSUES ARE STILL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM PASSES AND FROM OIL FIELDS UNDER CONDITIONS THAT ARE ACCEPTABLE TO EGYPT. ON QUESTION OF THE NON-BELLIGERENCY AND DURATION, WE HAVE MADE CLEAR TO THE ISRAELIS THAT EGYPT WILL NOT TAKE ITSELF OUT OF THE WAR WITH A DECLARATION OF NON-BELLIGERENCY AND THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON REMAINING ISSUES OF A PEACE SETTLEMENT MUST CONTINUE. EXCHANGES ARE STILL IN PROCESS AND THERE IS NOTHING SPECIFIC WE CAN SAY AT THIS POINT ABOUT PROSPECTS.

B. ON THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, I WOULD DISCUSS SUCH GENERALITIES OF PROCEDURE AS THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING FURTHER WORKING GROUPS. GIVEN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, I SEE NO WAY TO DISCUSS TIMING OR OTHER DETAILS IN A MORE CONCRETE WAY AND AM INCLINED TO SUGGEST TO GROMYKO THAT SITUATION MAY EVOLVE IN SUCH A WAY THAT PRESIDENT WILL BE IN POSITION TO DISCUSS THESE WITH BREZHNEV AT THE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE TOWARD THE END OF JULY. KISSINGER

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